# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine

# Site Screen Report

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits, pits and waste piles. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

Mine Name: **Montezuma No. 2**Mine IDs: **163, 165, 166** 

Navajo AUM Western Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

20074.063.017.0020

August 2011

# Part I **Site Identification, Location and Status** Site Names and ID numbers as applicable Mine ID: 163; 165; 166 Map ID: *163*: W25 165: W26 **166:** W27 **CERCLIS:** NNN000909224 Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program: 163: NA-114aab **165:** NA-114aaa **166:** NA-0116 **Local name / Aliases:** Montezuma #2 **Chapter and local area:** Bodaway / Gap County: Coconino **State:** Arizona Lat/Long: 163: 35.923658336 N / -111.436876696 W *165*: 35.921388021 N / -111.433835209 W **166:** 35.9228075174 N / -111.426072417 W Nearby road and highway: US-89 Local Post Office: Cameron, AZ Surface Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below **Tribal Trust Land Public lands Private Tribal Fee Land Bureau of Land Mgmt Allotment** State Fee land

# **Subsurface Mineral Rights:**

No information on subsurface mineral rights ownership was found in the EPA/AUM Database.

#### **Claim and operator information:**

The mine surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents identified the operator of the mine as Kachina Uranium Corporation from 1956 to 1957. No additional historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA / AUM database.

Number of residential structures within 200 feet of mine: None

# Part II Summary of Radiological Readings

**Mine ID: 163** 

**Highest gamma radiation measurement:** 24,311 counts per minute (cpm)

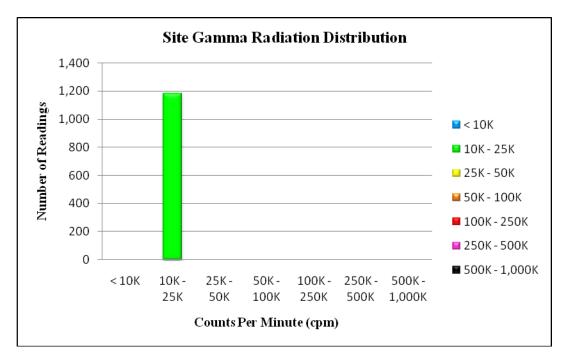
**Background Average:** 15,437 cpm **Two Times Background:** 30,874 cpm

# Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 1,184 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 10,843 cpm to 24,311 cpm. Measurements collected in the vicinity of the reclamation areas were found at a maximum level of approximately 25,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4.

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

Site Gamma Radiation S	Statistics
Number of Readings	1,184
Minimum (cpm)	10,843
Maximum (cpm)	24,311
Mean (cpm)	15,430
Median (cpm)	15,306
Standard Deviation	1,680



**Highest gamma radiation measurement:** 100,368 counts per minute (cpm)

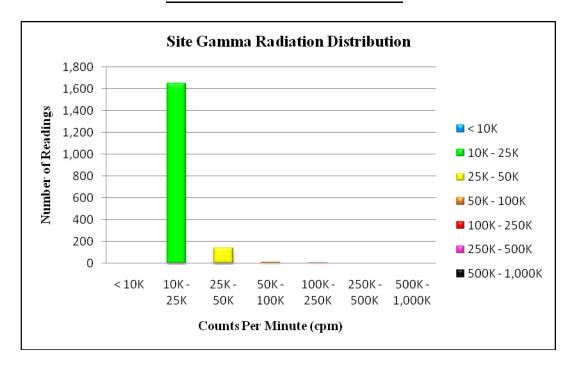
**Background Average:** 17,164 cpm **Two Times Background:** 34,328 cpm

# Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 1,804 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 14,505 cpm to 100,368 cpm. Measurements collected in the vicinity of the waste rock were found at a maximum level of approximately 50,000 cpm, and the reclamation areas of approximately 35,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4.

## **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

<b>Site Gamma Radiation Statistics</b>		
Number of Readings	1,804	
Minimum (cpm)	14,505	
Maximum (cpm)	100,368	
Mean (cpm)	20,211	
Median (cpm)	18,809	
Standard Deviation	6,040	



**Highest gamma radiation measurement:** 151,759 counts per minute (cpm)

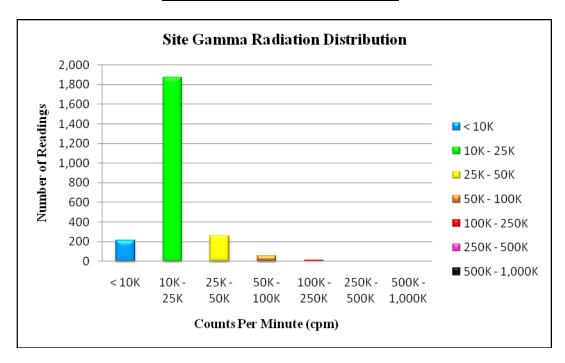
**Background Average:** 10,746 cpm **Two Times Background:** 21,492 cpm

# Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 2,415 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 7,762 cpm to 151,759 cpm. Measurements collected in the vicinity of the reclamation areas were found at a maximum level of approximately 150,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1, 2, 5, and 6.

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

<b>Site Gamma Radiation</b>	Statistics
Number of Readings	2,415
Minimum (cpm)	7,762
Maximum (cpm)	151,759
Mean (cpm)	18,450
Median (cpm)	15,688
Standard Deviation	13,077



#### Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

**Mine ID: 163** 

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes Waste Pile onsite: No

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-114aab

**NAMLRP Mine features:** 1 Rim Strip / Pit

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2011 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

#### Observed reclamation work and status:

#### **Adits:**

None observed

#### **Waste Piles:**

None observed

#### Pits:

None observed

# **Shafts:**

None observed

### **Other Debris and Mine Features:**

Reclamation cap, 100' x 150' x 5', rocky red-brown rocks, down slope

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes Waste Pile onsite: No

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-114aaa

**NAMLRP Mine features:** 1 Rim Strip / Pit

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2011 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

#### Observed reclamation work and status:

#### **Adits:**

None observed

#### **Waste Piles:**

2 waste rock piles: Pile 1 - 15'dia x 1.5'h, light brown rock fragments; Pile 2 - 40' x 30' x 1', near ledge

## Pits:

None observed

# **Shafts:**

None observed

### **Other Debris and Mine Features:**

Reclamation cap, 70'x40'x5', light brown small rock fragments

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes Waste Pile onsite: No

**NAMLRP Project Number:** NA-0116

**NAMLRP Mine features:** 2 Rim Strip / Pits

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2011 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

Observed	reclamation	work and	ctatuc.
COUNCI VCU	i cciainauvii	wui K anu	Status.

# **Adits:**

None observed

# **Waste Piles:**

None observed

#### Pits:

None observed

#### **Shafts:**

None observed

# **Other Debris and Mine Features:**

Reclaimed area

#### Part IV Site Observations and Environs

Observed Residential Structures (number and human habitation status of structures at the following distances from the mine site):

**0 to 200 feet:** No residential structures were observed, but a collapsed stone Hogan was located on site #66

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None observed

Observed Public or Commercial Structures (schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structures used by members of the community at the following distances from the mine site):

0 to 200 feet: None observed

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None observed

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

Background Levels

Observed Water Sources (number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine site):

0 to 0.25 miles: None observed

**0.25 miles to 4 miles:** Seasonal tributary to Little Colorado River approximately 0.5 mi E of sites, Little Colorado River approximately 2 mi S of sites

Sensitive Environments (all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species, habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation):

None observed

Known Site History (information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents and database review, includes: mine ownership, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information provided):

The Montezuma No. 2 mine claim consists of three separate mine sites (#'s 163, 165, 166) with a total combined area of 99,014.33 m<sup>2</sup>. The mine was identified as being operational from 1955 to 1957. While operational, the mine had a total reported production volume of 193 tons. The mine surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents identified the operator of the mine as Kachina Uranium Corporation from 1956 to 1957. No additional historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA / AUM database.

# Part V Response Action Summary

# **Summary of Evaluation Factors:**

# Accessibility:

Was the mine easily accessible to potential human activity?

Yes

# Radiological Measurements:

Were any gamma radiation measurements collected at the mine greater than two times the site-specific background levels?

Yes

#### Waste Piles:

Were any unreclaimed waste piles observed at the mine with gamma radiation measurements greater than two times the site-specific background levels? Yes

#### Structures:

Were any structures observed within 200 feet of the mine?

Yes

# Potential Drinking Water Sources:

Were any potential drinking water sources observed within 4 miles of the mine? Yes

#### Reclamation:

Was the mine reported to be previously reclaimed, or did the mine appear to be reclaimed?

Yes

# Part VI Photos



**Photo 1:** Mine Site #163



Photo 2: Mine Site #163; Reclamation area



**Photo 3:** Mine Site #165



**Photo 4:** Mine Site #165; Reclamation area



**Photo 5:** Mine Site #165; Waste rock



Photo 6: Mine Site #166;



Photo 7: Mine Site #166; Drainage



Photo 8: Mine Site #166; Drainage



Photo 9: Mine Site #166; Drainage



Photo 10: Mine Site #166; Hogan in southwest part of site

# Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Name:	Eugene Esplain
Title or official role (if any):	Navajo EPA Superfund Program
Telephone number:	(928) 871-7331
Address:	PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Information provided:	Lead Regulatory Agency
Name:	·
Title or official role (if any):	
Telephone number:	
Address:	
Information provided:	
Name:	
Title or official role (if any):	
Telephone number:	
Address:	
Information provided:	

Figure 1 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Montezuma No. 2 (163, 165, 166)
Bodaway / Gap Chapter, Navajo Nation

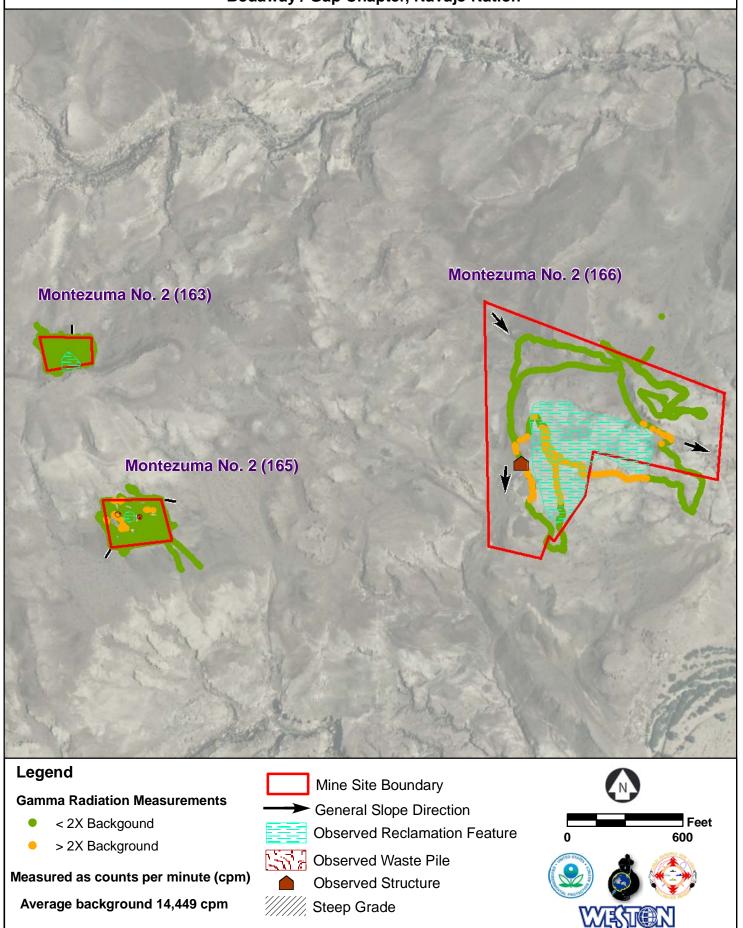


Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Montezuma No. 2 (163, 165, 166) Bodaway / Gap Chapter, Navajo Nation

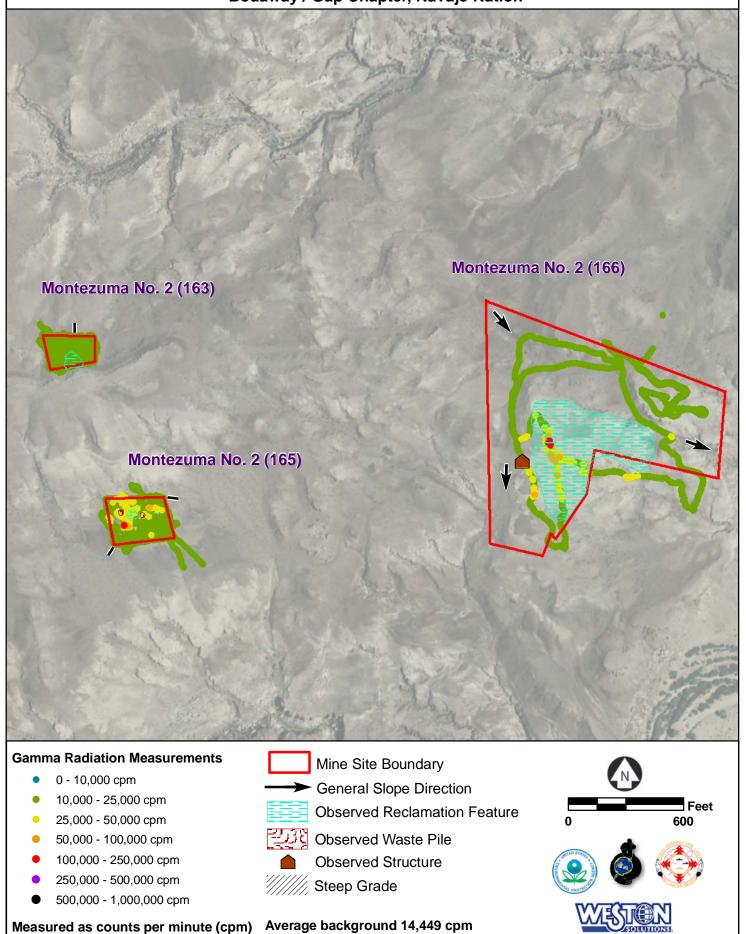


Figure 3 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Montezuma No. 2 (163, 165)
Bodaway / Gap Chapter, Navajo Nation

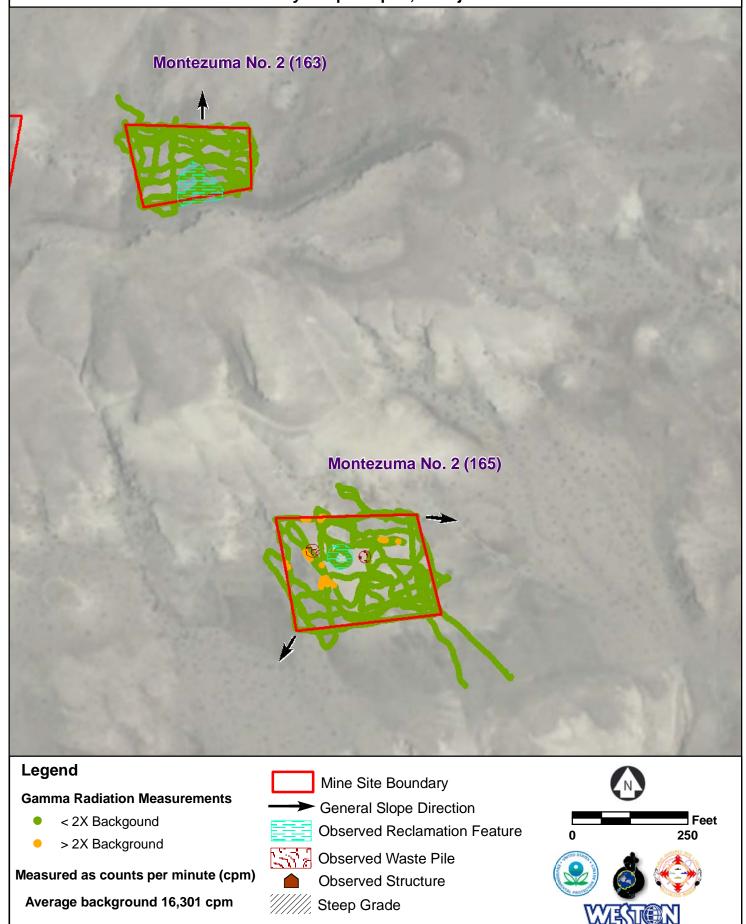
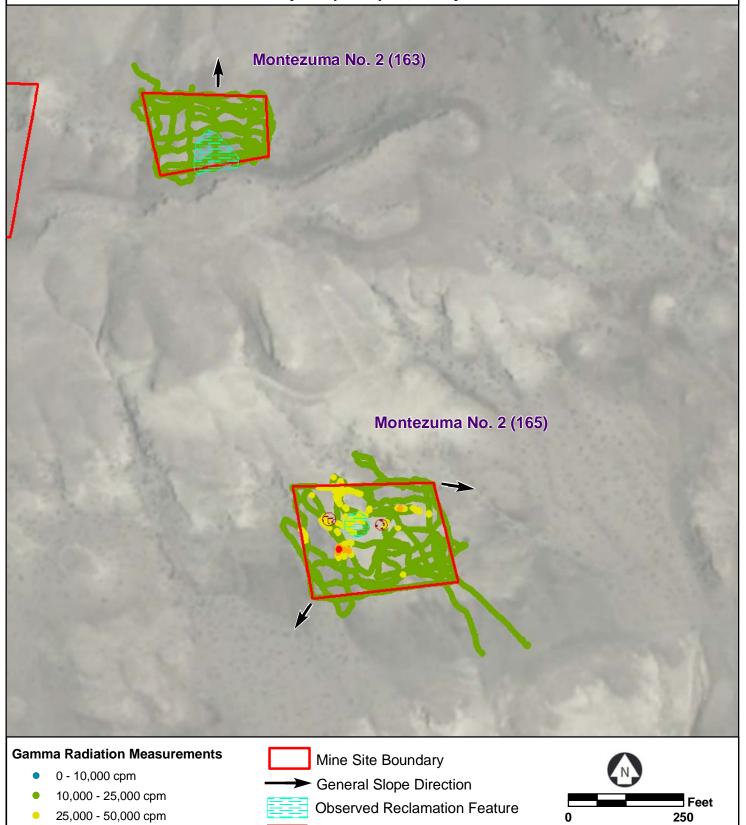
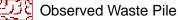
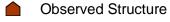


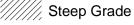
Figure 4 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Montezuma No. 2 (163, 165) Bodaway / Gap Chapter, Navajo Nation



- 50,000 100,000 cpm
- 100,000 250,000 cpm
- 250,000 500,000 cpm
- 500,000 1,000,000 cpm











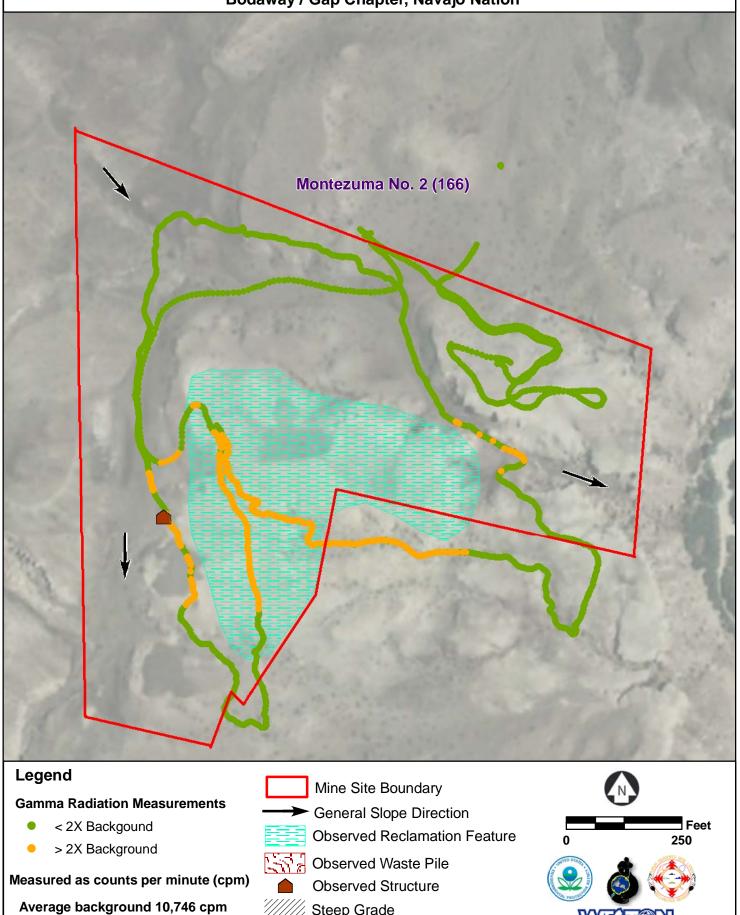




Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

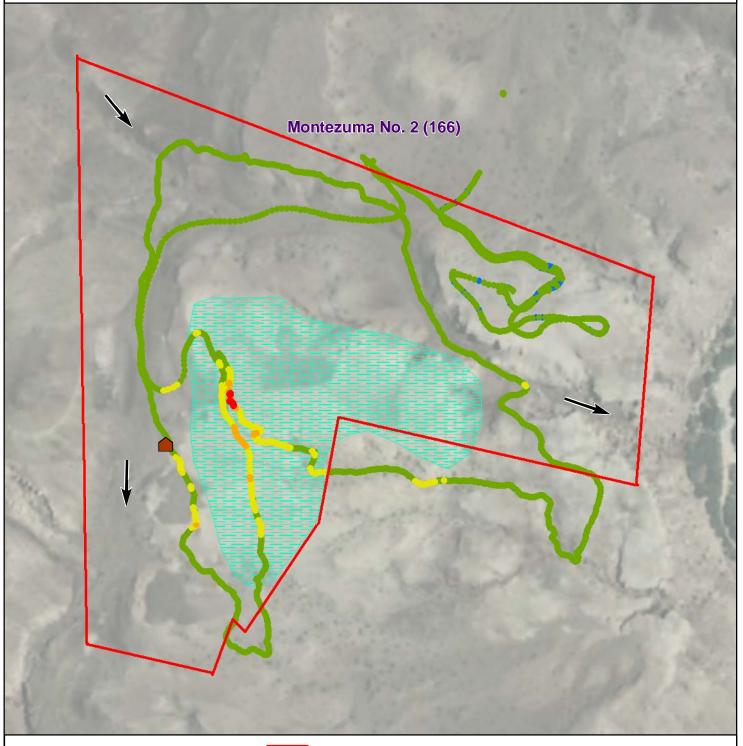
Average background 16,301 cpm

Figure 5 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background Montezuma No. 2 (166) **Bodaway / Gap Chapter, Navajo Nation** 



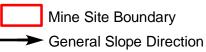
Steep Grade

Figure 6 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Montezuma No. 2 (166) Bodaway / Gap Chapter, Navajo Nation



#### **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- 0 10,000 cpm
- 10,000 25,000 cpm
- 25,000 50,000 cpm
- 50,000 100,000 cpm
- 100,000 250,000 cpm
- 250,000 500,000 cpm
- 500,000 1,000,000 cpm



Observed Reclamation Feature

Observed Waste Pile

Observed Structure

////// Steep Grade

